



Brownfields 2010 Revolving Loan Fund Grant Fact Sheet

Leelanau County, MI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Leelanau County was selected to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Leelanau County (population 21,119) is a rural peninsula in northwest Michigan with more than 100 miles of Great Lakes shoreline. It includes 11 townships, three villages, a tribal government, and part of Traverse City. The county's economy depends on tourism and agriculture. Its tourism and recreational sectors have been seriously affected by the economic downturn. Old industrial, commercial, and residential properties have been abandoned. The state has identified 15 open and 37 closed leaking underground storage tank sites and 34 hazardous waste sites in the county. These sites pose risks to the many low-income residents who live nearby and to the aquifers that are the primary source of drinking water. Brownfield cleanups conducted through the RLF grant will reduce threats to human health and the environment and are expected to help stimulate interest from investors and developers to reuse the sites.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant

\$750,000 for hazardous substances
\$250,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected Leelanau County for a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. The grant will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which Leelanau County will provide loans to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with hazardous substances and petroleum. The county expects to award three loans.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
(312) 886-7576
EPA Region 5 Brownfields Web site
(<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields>)

Grant Recipient: Leelanau County, MI
(231) 256-9812

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.